

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:617
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
NEWS BULLETINS FROM GUWAHATI DOORDARSHAN
Borkataky Shri Narayan Chandra

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved starting of additional news bulletins in Assamese and English from Guwahati Doordarshan centre;
- (b) if so, the time by which these bulletins are likely to be telecasted;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce additional news bulletins from Guwahati All India Radio (AIR);
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) the details of funds allocated by the Government for Guwahati Regional News Units, AIR and Doordarshan for the current financial year, separately?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (ADDITIONAL CHARGE) (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a) to (c): Prasara Bharati has informed that there is no proposal for starting additional news bulletin from the RNU, DDK, Guwahati. However, DDK, Guwahati is already telecasting following news bulletins:

0830 hrs 10 mts Assamese
1900 hrs 15 mts Assamese
1915 hrs 15 mts English

The Kendra is also mounting an English bulletin for State Scan Chunk for a duration of 6 ½ mts at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday and a news paper review on Thursday for a duration of 2 ½ mts. at 8.30 a.m. on DD News – National Channel.

(d) to (f) : No Sir. Prasara Bharati has informed that there is no proposal to introduce additional news bulletin from AIR, Guwahati. Presently, AIR, Guwahati produces 5 news bulletins

(i) three in Assamese,

(ii) one in Karbi and

(iii) one in Bodo language. In addition, a Nepalese news bulletin is broadcast bi-weekly. The Station also broadcast news headlines on FM Channel, thrice a day. The duration of morning bulletin has already been increased by 5 mts from 8.50 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. w.e.f 29.01.2008. News – on – phone service is also available from AIR, Guwahati.

(g) A sum of Rs. 47.99 lakhs has been earmarked for RNU, AIR, Guwahati, while Rs 31.72 lakhs has been earmarked for RNU, DDK, Guwahati during 2008-09.